

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending and under consideration.

In the Office Action of June 16, 2004, claims 1-15 were rejected as anticipated by or obvious in view of USP 5,641,996 (Omoya et al.).

In response, the claims have been amended to clarify the invention. The rejections are traversed, particularly as they might be directed to the amended claims.

In that regard, independent device claims 1 and 11 set forth a structure comprising a two layered adhesive structure, in which the second layer is provided across the first layer. This is because this structure is in this form prior to bringing together the two electrical connections to be connected.

In contrast, in Omoya et al, what the examiner refers to as the second adhesive layer, is actually an encapsulating layer that is injected into and the voids between the two connected elements after the connection is made only via the first layer. At worst, in Omoya et al, there is some overlap of the after-injected alleged second adhesive layer on a small portion of an upper surface of the first adhesive layer. Therefore, at no time does Omoya et al have the claimed structure.

Regarding independent method claim 12, that claim sets forth a method in which the two adhesive layers are provided in their relative positions, then a heating and pressuring step is undertaken to cause the second adhesive layer to soften sufficiently, then the two members to be electrically connected are brought together, then the layers are subjected to a cure step.

As noted previously, in Omoya et al., the alleged second adhesive layer is not provided until after the electrical connection of the members to be connected. Thus, the first and second adhesive layers are never positioned as claimed, nor are the recited steps undertaken as claimed. Moreover, there is no fair suggestion to undertake the steps as claimed.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that independent claims 1, 11 and 12 are patentable. A fortiori, so are dependent claims 2-10 and 13-15.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station - Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
Telephone: (312) 876-8000
Customer No. 26263

By:


David R. Metzger

Registration No. 32,919